THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No proposal has been received from the Government of West Bengal for Mini Hydel Project during the years 2006 and 2007 (up to 15.03.2007).

(b) and (c) do not arise.

Solution of Global Warming

2181. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bio-diesel is one of the immediate and viable solutions to tackle global warming and to meet requirement of fuel besides being the only fuel that reduce carbon dioxide life cycle by an amazing 78 per cent;

(b) if so, the measures taken to go for large scale and commercial production of bio-fuel; and

(c) whether the measures taken are adequate and effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The Report of the Committee on Development of Bio-fuel (2003) set up by the Planning Commission has brought out properties of bio-diesel as an alternative fuel, which can be used as a blend or substitute of conventional diesel. The Central Pollution Control Board has reported (2002) that the life-cycle production and use of bio-diesel produces approximately 80% less carbon dioxide an almost 100% less sulphur dioxide compared to conventional diesel.

(b) and (c) The Government has set up a National Mission on Bio-diesel under the Ministry of Rural Development, which includes the demonstration phase for plantation of Jatropha and pongamia on an estimated 5 lakh hectare of waste lands. The implementation of the programme for large scale and commercial production of bio-diesel would depend on the successful implementation of the demonstration phase.